

GEOGRAPHIC NEWS BULLETINS

Published Weekly by

THE NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

(The National Geographic Society is a scientific and educational Society, wholly altruistic, incorporated under the Federal law as a non-commercial institution for the increase of geographic knowledge and its popular diffusion.)

General Headquarters, Washington, D. C.

Contents for Week of April 10, 1933. Vol. XII. No. 8.

1. Changes To Greet Washington's Cherry Blossom Sightseers.
 2. Cuernavaca, "Sun Child of the Sierras."
 3. Easter Lilies Now Blanket Bermudian Hillsides.
 4. Cincinnati, Ohio's City of Seven Hills, Has New Terminal.
 5. Haifa, Gateway to Palestine.
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A BIT OF THE "JUNGLE" IN A WASHINGTON ZOO

The National Capital has many interesting sights in addition to its fine public buildings and flowering Japanese cherry trees. In the new reptile house at the National Zoological Park large glass windows separate a hot, sultry atmosphere, similar to that of the tropics (for alligators, snakes and tropical plants) from the visitors' gallery, where normal temperatures are maintained (See Bulletin No. 1).

HOW TEACHERS MAY OBTAIN THE BULLETINS

The Geographic News Bulletins are published weekly throughout the school year (thirty issues) and will be mailed to teachers for one year upon receipt of 25 cents (in stamps or money order). Entered as second-class matter, January 27, 1922, at the Post Office at Washington, D. C., under the Act of March 3, 1879. Acceptance for mailing at special rate of postage provided for in section 1103, Act of October 3, 1917, authorized February 9, 1922.

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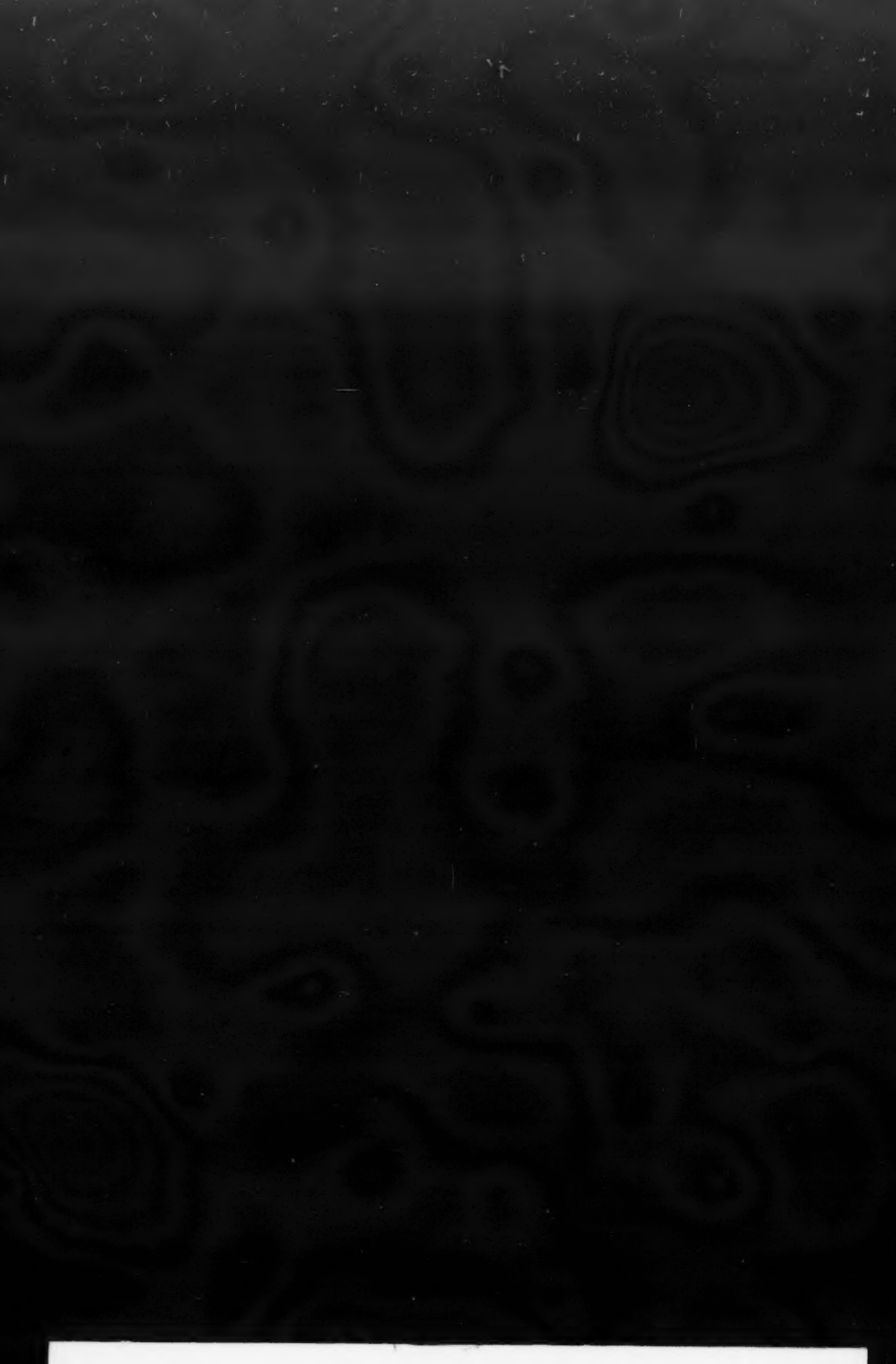
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Changes To Greet Washington's Cherry Blossom Sightseers

THOUSANDS of school students, tourists, artists, photographers and others, who annually make pilgrimages to Washington when the Japanese cherry trees are in bloom, will this month find a vastly transformed National Capital as well.

An active building and beautification program that dates back more than a decade has begun to take form in huge new government structures, libraries, scientific society headquarters, boulevards and parks. From Capitol Hill to the Lincoln Memorial, and from the Potomac to the Cathedral, visitors will miss many old landmarks, and will find many new edifices and cleared areas in their places.

Much Construction in Progress

In contrast to many parts of the country, too, Washington is still a city where the rattle of riveting machines, the rumble of concrete mixers and the whistles of hoisting engines may be heard as new buildings take form from structural steel and stone.

In the neighborhood of the Capitol the dazzling white marble walls of the new Supreme Court Building now flank the Library of Congress on the east side of the Plaza. The Library, itself, has a new wing under construction, while back of it is the Folger Library, a marble structure housing the nation's finest collection of Shakespeariana. On the south side of the Plaza rises a second House Office Building, while the U-shaped Senate Office Building has been made a square.

All the district between the Capitol and the Union Station has been cleared of unsightly wartime barracks, and in their stead is a beautifully landscaped park, with a fountain and terrace. Hidden beneath the park lies a large garage which has helped to solve the parking problem in the area.

A New Parade Street

Pennsylvania Avenue, the street of parades, has a new rival in Constitution Avenue, formed by widening B Street and by cutting through several blocks of houses and buildings. Constitution Avenue runs directly from the north side of the Capitol to the Potomac River near the Lincoln Memorial. Along it are the new Justice, Interstate Commerce, Labor, Department of Commerce, Internal Revenue and Public Health Buildings.

The last three are completed, and the others are under construction, as is also the National Archives Building, near the site of the old Center Market. On Pennsylvania Avenue, beside the tower of the Old Post Office Department Building, a new structure to house the activities of the postal branch of the government is being finished.

Across the Mall from this group rises the new Department of Agriculture administration building, with huge auxiliary structures running down toward the railroad district along the Potomac. Here, too, is being constructed a central heating plant for government offices in this part of the city.

In the vast Department of Commerce Building, finished last year, visitors will find a unique aquarium in its basement that contains living specimens of many of our important food fishes and also various types of tropical and gold fishes raised in home aquariums.

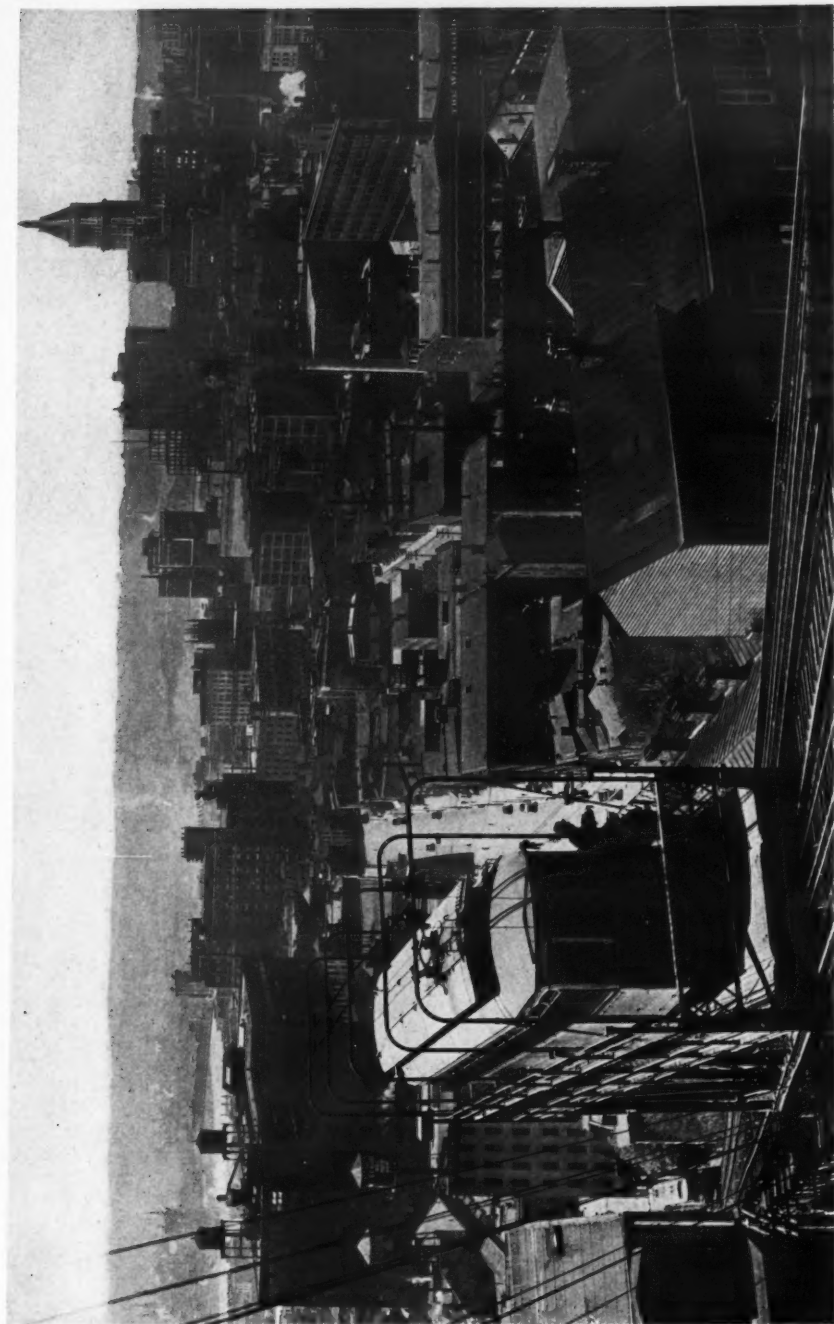
The Cathedral Adds a Transept

On Sixteenth Street, three blocks above the White House, are the recently-enlarged headquarters of the National Geographic Society, and, a little farther north along this thoroughfare, the cascades of Meridian Hill Park. Norway and Japan have joined the new "embassy district" on upper Massachusetts Avenue with handsome buildings housing their staffs. A new transept has been added to the Washington Cathedral, where Woodrow Wilson and Admiral Dewey are buried.

Potomac Park, where twenty-one years ago the first Japanese cherry trees were planted by Mrs. William Howard Taft, wife of the President, has been extended by a new riverside drive from the Lincoln Memorial to Georgetown. This drive faces former Analostan Island, now Theodore Roosevelt Island, in the Potomac, which was presented to the government last year by the Roosevelt Memorial Association to become a shrine to the late President. Rock Creek Park, which cuts a green swath through the capital, is being enlarged so that it will soon be possible to drive from the Potomac River to the Maryland line entirely in parked areas.

During the past year, too, the Arlington Memorial Bridge across the Potomac was opened

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CINCINNATI SOLVES A GEOGRAPHICAL PROBLEM WITH INCLINES (See Bulletin No. 4).

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Cuernavaca, "Sun Child of the Sierras"

ANNOUNCEMENT that the Eighth Annual Seminar on Mexico will divide its sessions this summer between Mexico City and Cuernavaca directs attention to the latter city, which, while only 75 miles south of the capital, is not as widely known to-day as it was when the Aztec ruler Montezuma, or Cortez the Spanish Conqueror, or the ill-fated Maximilian used it in turn as a summer resort.

Cuernavaca, "The Sun Child of the Sierras," lacks only an apple tree, it is said in Mexico, to be Eden.

Almost Unchanged through 400 Years

Through the many ages of travel few spots in the world have remained unchanged. But Cuernavaca lies to-day in the little Mexican valley of the same name, well preserved in its natural beauty and almost unaltered from the sunny village of earliest days of Spanish influence in North America, more than 400 years ago.

The name Cuernavaca, which means "horn of the cow," is probably a contraction of Cuanhnahuac, the more poetic Aztec term, meaning "near the mountain," and tradition tells that it was applied by the Spanish during the days of the Conquest.

Hemmed in on every side by lofty peaks which no storm can surmount, and having an altitude of nearly 5,000 feet, which tempers the heat of a tropical sun, Cuernavaca enjoys an equable climate at all seasons of the year.

There is no other 75-mile trip in the three Americas so full of charm as that from Mexico City to Cuernavaca. The four hours required to make the journey pass only too quickly, as the train winds its way through a veritable wonderland.

Upon reaching La Cima, the highest point on the route, at an elevation of about 10,000 feet, a magnificent view of the fertile Valley of Cuernavaca is unfolded below. Plantations of sugar-cane and coffee, fields of rice and bananas, and orchards of lemon, orange, and mango trees can be seen as far as the eye can reach.

Many Trees and Patio Gardens

Cuernavaca itself lies on a thickly wooded hill between two deep *barrancas* and surrounded by a number of deep gorges, which make it by nature almost inaccessible. Crossing these, however, are several graceful bridges. Numberless springs and mountain streams have been united and form what is known as the municipal water-works. So great is the supply of water that the entire community has been converted into a rich grove of trees and innumerable patio gardens.

The Cortez Palace, built in 1531, where the patriot Morelos was confined as a prisoner of war, and which is now used as the capital of the State of Morelos; and the Cathedral, built in 1535, whose tower contains a clock from the Cathedral of Segovia, bear silent testimony to the noble and quiet manner in which Hernando Cortez spent his life after the Conquest. He made Cuernavaca his residence and personally managed the vast estates in the vicinity which had been granted to him by Charles V of Spain. One of these estates, the Hacienda de Atlacomulco, still exists.

During the second empire Maximilian made Cuernavaca the summer capital of his court, and spent the few tranquil and happy days of a stormy career at his country residence, Olindo, in the suburbs of the town. He also paid frequent visits to the Borda gardens.

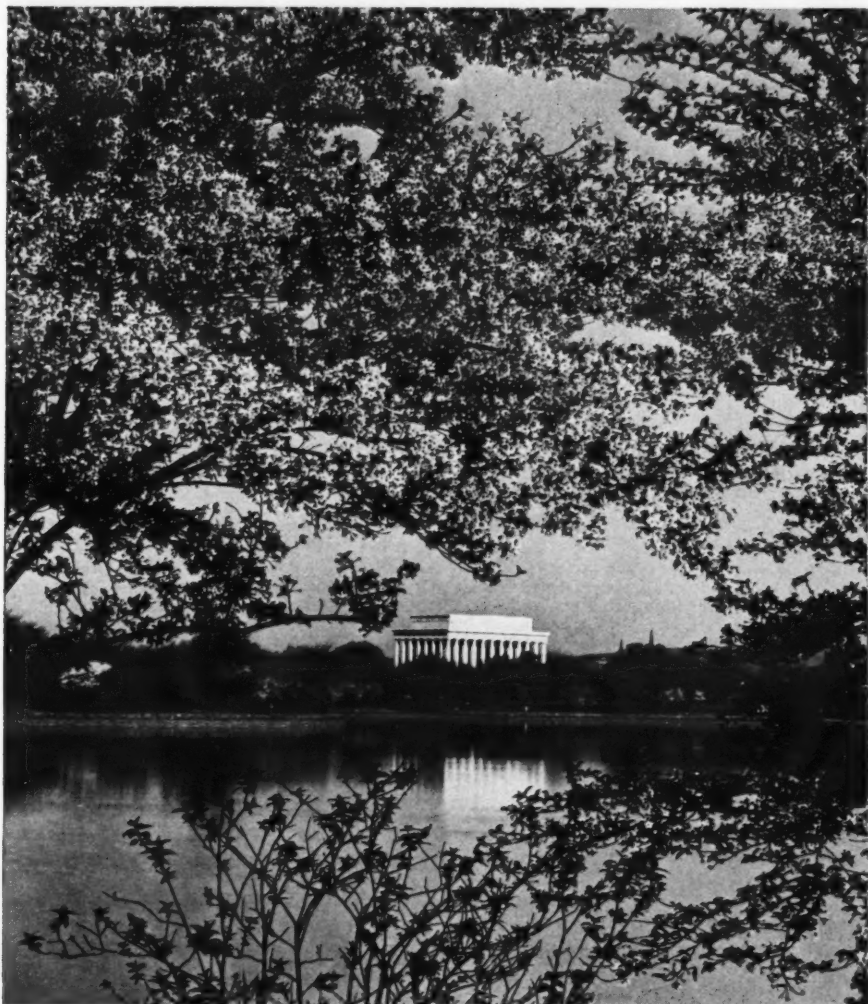
These gardens of world-wide fame were laid out by Don José de la Borda in 1762 with the idea of reproducing, on a grander scale, the gardens of Versailles. In

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to traffic. This beautifully-arched span now links the Lincoln Memorial circle with a new approach to Arlington Memorial Cemetery and the completed Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, and with the Mount Vernon Boulevard to Alexandria and the home of the First President.

Note: The story of Washington's growth as the National Capital is told in text and pictures in the following articles, which may be consulted in your school or public library: "Washington Through the Years," *National Geographic Magazine*, November, 1931; "Some Impressions of 150,000 Miles of Travel," May, 1930; "Approaching Washington by Tidewater Potomac," March, 1930; and "Unique Gifts of Washington to the Nation," April, 1929; "The Transformation of Washington (D. C.)," "The Lincoln Memorial," "The Capitol (United States), Wonder Building of the World," and "The Sources of Washington's Charm," June, 1923.

Bulletin No. 1, April 10, 1933.



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CHERRY BLOSSOMS BRING THEIR MESSAGE OF SPRING TO THE NATION'S CAPITAL

There are few lovelier spots in the world than the Tidal Basin along Washington's water front when the Japanese cherry trees come into bloom. The flowers on these trees are nearly white, but on the banks of the Potomac itself are many pink-flowering varieties that in recent years have rivalled the Tidal Basin group.

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Easter Lilies Now Blanket Bermudian Hillsides

WITH hundreds of thousands of snow-white lilies and vivid oleanders, ranging in color from pure white to the deepest crimson, checkerboarding their gently-rolling hillsides and fields, the Bermuda Islands again justify the claim of being "Easter Land."

In every season of the year flowers bloom in the Bermudas, but in the spring these bits of England in the Atlantic fairly outdo themselves, and each garden and hedgerow becomes a flower show whose wealth of color, fragrance and variety is scarcely equalled elsewhere in the world.

Names Taken from Mother Country

In many respects Bermuda is an England in miniature. The names of many of the shires and towns are lifted bodily from those of the mother country, without even so much as a "New" in apology. Warwick, Southampton, Devonshire, Watford, Ireland and Somerset are examples. Surface irregularities, hundreds of bays and promontories, and picturesque English cottages and little stone parish churches help to complete the picture.

The resemblance is not quite perfect, however. There are no lakes, nor streams, nor natural springs. The few ponds are mostly brackish and derive their water indirectly from the sea. Every home has its own water supply tank on the roof, and fortunately rainfall is frequent and abundant.

In fact the islands have a reputation as a storm center, many claiming that Shakespeare laid the setting for "The Tempest" in Bermuda, because of reports, brought back by sailors, of its sudden and violent hurricanes.

Beaches of Red Coral-Sand

Particularly interesting is the plant life. Coffee, tea and tobacco are of spontaneous growth, while the toad, which was introduced after the discovery of the islands, attains proportions that startle the uninitiated. Red coral-sand beaches, limestone caves of marvelous beauty, sandstone for houses (cut with saws from the backyard), and unsettled theories concerning the volcanic origin of the islands are among the many things that keep geologists entertained.

The islands were discovered by a Spaniard, Juan de Bermudez, in 1515, but it was the shipwreck of an Englishman in 1609 that led to the British claim and their colonization.

During the Revolution, although sympathetic with the American colonies, Bermuda remained loyal to the mother country. A shortage of food led to an exchange of large stores of powder, seized in the dead of night from the garrison by citizens, for several shiploads of food supplies from the American Colonies. It was this powder, received at an hour of great need, that the Continental army employed to compel the British to evacuate Boston.

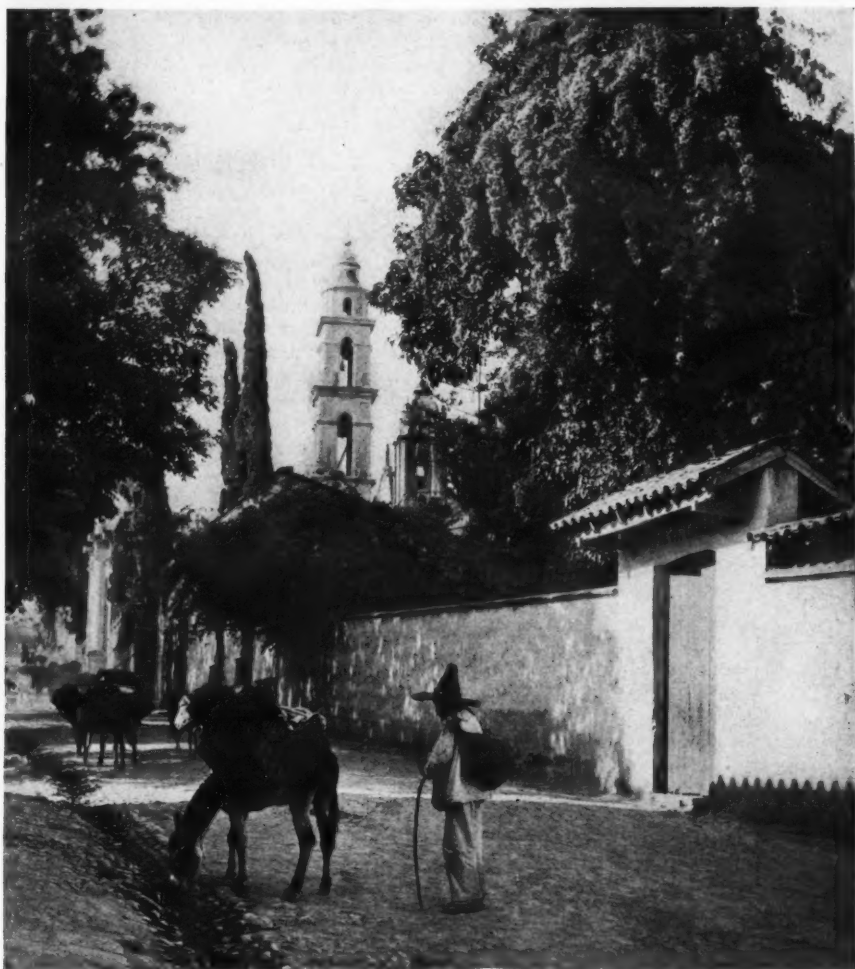
Tourists Principal "Industry"

To-day Bermuda has often nearly as many Americans within its shores as natives. Less than 700 miles from New York, and connected with America's principal port by frequent and speedy steamers, the American tourist has supplanted the production of onions, potatoes, and lily bulbs as the principal "industry." The islands, of which there are said to be 365 in the group (one for every day in the

order to carry out his plans, he sent to France for landscape gardeners and expended over a million dollars in the work. The natural springs on the estate were transformed into lakelets, cascades, and luxurious baths. Rare plants and flowers were brought from all parts of the world and arranged with artistic skill. Even to-day the place is one of the chief beauty spots of North America.

Note: Students interested in Mexico and educators planning to attend the Seminar in Mexico City and Cuernavaca will find the following references helpful: "Monte Albán, Richest Archaeological Find in America," *National Geographic Magazine*, October, 1932; "Unearthing America's Ancient History," July, 1931; "North America's Oldest Metropolis," July, 1930; "Buenos Aires to Washington by Horse," February, 1929; "To Bogotá and Back by Air," May, 1928; "How Latin America Looks from the Air," October, 1927; "Among the Zapotecs of Mexico," May, 1927; "Chichen Itzá, an Ancient American Mecca," January, 1925; "The Isthmus of Tehuantepec," May, 1924; "Ruins of Cuicuilco May Revolutionize Our History of Ancient America," August, 1923; "Along the Old Spanish Road in Mexico," March, 1923; "Adventuring down the West Coast of Mexico," November, 1922; "The Foremost Intellectual Achievement of Ancient America," February, 1922; and "Along Our Side of the Mexican Border," July, 1920.

Bulletin No. 2, April 10, 1933.



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ALONG THE OLD SPANISH TRAIL IN CUERNAVACA

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Cincinnati, Ohio's City of Seven Hills, Has New Terminal

CINCINNATI has a new union railroad station that is a city in itself. In addition to train platforms, waiting rooms and ticket offices this last word in modern terminals also includes a movie theatre, which will show 10-minute newsreels and other short features, a toy shop, a pharmacy, apparel shops for men and women, book stores, and several dining rooms and lunch counters. More than 17,000 passengers can be handled on its 16 tracks daily.

When the City Took to the Heights

"In Ohio, Cincinnati is known as 'the City of Seven Hills,'" writes Melville Chater in a communication to the National Geographic Society.

"That description, recalling Cincinnatus' home town on the Tiber, has been applicable since 1789, when due to floods on the Ohio River, the then low-lying town of Cincinnati took to the surrounding heights.

"Ever since it has been expanding, until now it covers some 72 square miles. Like Cleveland, it is a city with townships in its midst, the three independent municipalities of Elmwood, St. Bernard, and Norwood lying completely within Cincinnati's boundaries.

"From the outset, due to its commanding position on a river bordering upon a long-established South and leading toward an undeveloped West, it was destined to be one of the main keys of the Gateway State. Because it was near the source of raw materials—iron ore from the North, coal from the East, timber from the South—Cincinnati later developed as a great manufacturing and distributing center.

Had Section Known as "Over the Rhine"

"Standing on one of Cincinnati's surrounding hills, you view far below the checkerboard complex of a business district overlapping the town's original riverside site. On one hand, sliced along its outskirts, like some vast swath cut through standing grain, run horizonward railway lines leading to the newly-completed Union Terminal.

On yonder green flats along the Little Miami is the municipality's \$1,000-acre airport, while all around you rise Cincinnati's Seven Hills, clothed with fine residential suburbs and embowered by parks.

"One cannot trace the great arc of the old Miami and Erie Canal, for it has long since been banished underground, but one can identify, to northward of where it ran, that section, settled by Cincinnati's German colony, which for long was described as 'Over the Rhine.'

"Coming in two waves after the revolutions of 1832 and 1848, the colonists warmed to a New World 'Rhine' whose hillsides, while lacking ruined castles, soon vied with the Rhineland's vineyards. Also, they implanted the Turngemeinde, that system of concerted physical exercise which began in Germany under Frederick the Great.

"'Over the Rhine' is to-day merely a memory that contributes to Cincinnati's rich tradition.

"Perhaps its chief contributions lay in music, although, for that matter, musical culture in Cincinnati, dating back to the Haydn Society and the Harmonical Society, is almost as old as the city itself. It was the Saengerfest of 1842 that inaugurated

year), provide delightful playgrounds dotted with green cedar trees, and with charming combinations of water and shore.

Last year the Bermudas exported nearly half a million lily bulbs to the United States, and more than \$10,000 worth of cut flowers. The hyacinth bulb is another export of the islands. Most of the flowers of Bermuda, however, are retained on the island where they are of inestimable value as scenic assets.

Nearly 9 per cent, or 61 species, of plants and flowers growing in Bermuda are endemic, that is, they are not known to grow anywhere else in the world. Once tobacco was the principal crop; later the Bermudas had a practical monopoly of the early onion market until Texas and other southern states came into this field. To-day catering to the tourist—hotels, beaches, golf courses, fishing parties, souvenirs, etc.—brings in most of the revenue of the colony.

Note: In recent years Bermuda has been in the headlines as the scene of Dr. William Beebe's deep-sea studies. For additional information and illustrations of Bermuda and deep-sea life see: "A Wonderer under Sea," *National Geographic Magazine*, December, 1932; "Depths of the Sea," January, 1932; "Round Trip to Davy Jones's Locker," June, 1931; and "The Islands of Bermuda," January, 1922.

Bulletin No. 3, April 10, 1933.

NOTE TO TEACHERS

Owing to the Easter recess there will be no issue of the GEOGRAPHIC NEWS BULLETINS April 17, 1933. The next issue of the BULLETINS will be published April 24. Teachers whose subscriptions to the BULLETINS expire at this time will be assured of receiving the final issues of this term and the first issues next fall by remitting 25 cents in stamps or coin to the Washington, D. C. headquarters of the National Geographic Society. Subscriptions date from the time of payment, a total of 30 issues (once each week during the school year) being sent for each 25-cent remittance.



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ONE OF BERMUDA'S PRINCIPAL EXPORTS IS THE LILY BULB

Sometimes as many as a million blossoms grow in a single Bermudian field at this season of the year. The father of the Bermuda Easter lily "industry" was James Richardson, of Hamilton, who began cultivating the famous flower that is emblematic of the Easter season about 1870.

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Haifa, Gateway to Palestine

ONE of the most rapidly developing cities in the Near East to-day is Haifa, which recently displaced Jaffa as the chief gateway to Palestine. This week hundreds of Mediterranean cruise passengers will pass through Haifa en route to Jerusalem, for Easter Services in the Holy Land.

Salts from the Dead Sea and the nearly-completed oil pipe line across the desert from Iraq are expected to swell the volume of trade passing through this Mediterranean port soon. In preparation for additional shipping Haifa is completing a new harbor.

Bay of Acre Has Natural Roadstead

The Bay of Acre, on the southern shore of which the city of Haifa is located, affords one of the finest natural roadsteads on the Palestine coast. Formerly, however, ocean-going steamers were compelled to anchor offshore. The Bay of Acre is the first deep indentation on the Palestine coast for 300 miles north of the mouth of the Nile.

Most of present-day Haifa is modern. There is a German settlement with fine residences, business buildings, and schools, some of which are surrounded by lawns studded with flower beds and shrubs. And the Jews have a new quarter which has been developing along modern lines as hundreds of Jewish immigrants entered this port and settled in the city and in the neighborhood.

There is little in the city to recall that Haifa was the site of a settlement as far back as the first century A. D. There is a congested native district in the center of the town, with streets so narrow that a mere slit of sunlight touches the cobbles at noon, and so hilly that few vehicles can negotiate them. The buildings, in poor repair and in many cases unkempt, appear to be older than their century or two of age.

Motor Cars Drive Camels to the Gutter

In normal times camels loaded with lumber from the forests back of the city, sand from the wide beach around the Bay of Acre, and sealed cases, perhaps destined for the hold of an awaiting vessel in the harbor, slowly plod through the streets at a snail's pace.

Donkeys, no taller than the average man's hips, stagger under loads so huge that only the legs of the animals are in sight. The old victoria with its dignified driver is still a part of a Haifa street scene.

But motor cars are driving these old transports to the gutters. In front of the hotel the latest models from American automobile factories are making it hard for the old "cabbies" to find parking space.

It has not been many years since electricity was installed in Haifa. While some of the inhabitants are still trimming lamp wicks, electric lights are becoming popular and the unkempt native stores have been giving way to cleaner, lighter quarters with plate glass show windows displaying modern merchandise.

Cement Industry Important

One of the principal industries of Haifa, the cement industry, was begun by American capital. A \$2,000,000 plant grinds out the dust for new building construction in Palestine. The raw material is dug from the side of Mt. Carmel on top of which Elijah mocked the prophets of Baal.

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Cincinnati's May music festivals, followed the biennial Maytime festival, whose conjoined solo, choral, and orchestral presentations have been participated in by musicians of world fame.

"A park to every hill and a playground wherever possible seem to have been the aims of those who some twenty-five years ago planned Cincinnati's beautiful system of pleasures. And yet, from Eden Park, Alms Park, and Mount Echo Park, all overlooking the Ohio, to Ault Park, high-crested over the Little Miami's valley, 'system' is too formal a word to convey a picture of those many hill-and-dale sylvan spots, so artfully contrived as to create a ring of untrammelled Nature around the city.

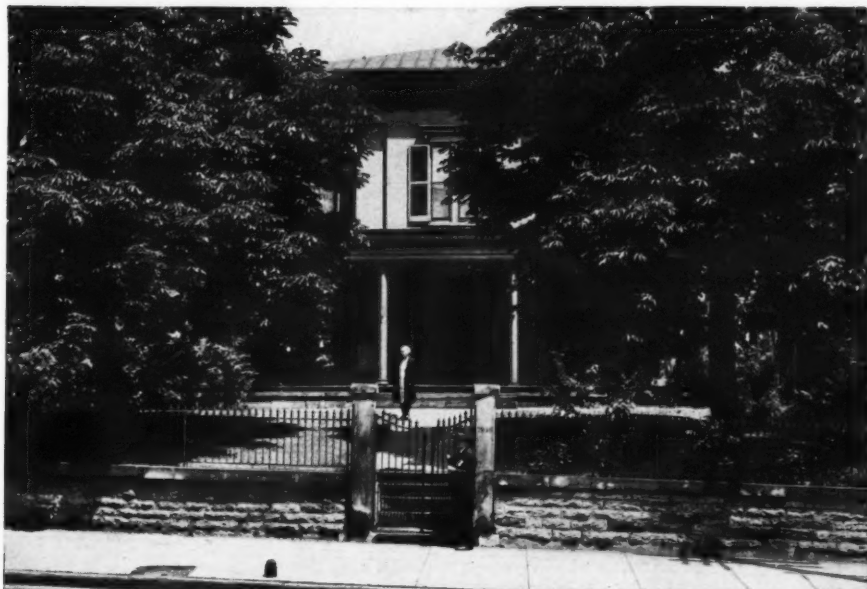
An Outdoor Opera "House"

"Within that ring lies Zoo Park and its outdoor home of opera. From small beginnings, this sylvan theater has established itself upon a basis of wide repertorial range, from tuneful favorites to so demanding a work as the 'Meistersinger.'

"Cincinnati, then, is the reverse of a metropolis immersed in big business at the expense of cultural life. That this is true, not only in the realm of music, is evidenced by the Cincinnati Institute of Fine Arts. And, as an architectural center of period styles, the charming suburb of Mariemont, with its Tudoresque and Colonial effects, as well as its village church modeled upon the one at Stoke Poges, of 'Gray's Elegy' fame, offers an outstanding instance."

Note: For additional information and photographs of this important American artistic and industrial center see: "Ohio, The Gateway State," *National Geographic Magazine*, May, 1932; "The Travels of George Washington," January, 1932; "Seeing America from the *Shenandoah*," January, 1925; "The Origin of American State Names," August, 1920; and "Industry's Greatest Asset—Steel," August, 1917.

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CINCINNATI REVERES THE BIRTHPLACE OF WILLIAM HOWARD TAFT

This distinguished Ohioan is the only man who ever held, as President and as Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, the two highest offices within the gift of the Nation. He also actively encouraged the National Geographic Society for 25 years and served as a member of its Board of Trustees from 1917 until his death, in 1930.

There are also soap factories which were made famous when the German Kaiser visited Haifa in 1898 and honored the factory owners by an inspection. The German colony was founded as a religious center by German Templars of Wurtemberg, who migrated to Haifa in 1868. The colony was closed to non-members of the Templars at first.

Later other German colonists were admitted and the colony became an important German trade headquarters.

Connected By Rail With Interior

Recognizing its importance as a Palestine gateway, railroad men have built lines connecting the port with important cities along the coast and in the hinterland. One railroad line follows the coast southward. About 80 miles south of Haifa on this line, trains bound for Jerusalem switch to the east for a 30-mile run to the Holy City.

Another line out of Haifa penetrates another area familiar to Bible students, passing close to Nazareth and skirting the south shore of the Sea of Galilee. This line connects with the Hedjaz railroad which runs through Damascus and Aleppo. A cog wheel railway connects Damascus with Beyrouth. Tripoli, 40 miles to the north of Beyrouth, is France's outlet for another long pipe line from the Iraq oil fields.

Note: For supplementary reading about the Holy Lands see also: "Crusader Castles of the Near East," *National Geographic Magazine*, March, 1931; "Skirting the Shores of Sunrise," December, 1926; "Flying over Egypt, Sinai and Palestine," September, 1926; "A Visit to Three Arab Kingdoms," May, 1923; "Along the Nile Through Egypt and the Sudan," October, 1922; "The Geography of Our Foreign Trade," January, 1922; "Adventures with a Camera in Many Lands," July, 1921; and "Syria, the Land Link of History's Chain," November, 1919.

Bulletin No. 5, April 10, 1933.



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DRYING AND UNTANGLING NETS, AN AGE-OLD OCCUPATION AT HAIFA, GATEWAY TO PALESTINE

A new oil pipe line from Iraq, thousands of tourists from Mediterranean cruises and vast harbor developments have not affected these fishermen, who go about their simple tasks much as they did during Biblical times.

